



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

09/910,716

07/24/2001

Hiroaki Harada

1344.1071

1801

21171 7590 09/02/2008

STAAS & HALSEY LLP
SUITE 700
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

RAPILLO, KRISTINE K

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3626

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

09/02/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/910,716	Applicant(s) HARADA ET AL.	
	Examiner KRISTINE K. RAPILLO	Art Unit 3626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 May 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 13-19 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-12 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 3626

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 2 – 12 and 20 are pending.

Notice to Applicant

1. This communication is in response to a request for continued examination (RCE) submitted May 22, 2008. Claims 1 and 8 are cancelled. Claims 13 – 19 are withdrawn. Claims 4, 6, 9 – 12, and 20 are amended. Claims 2 – 12 and 20 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 2-4, 6-7, 9-12, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DiMattina, (U.S. Patent No. 6,405,177) in-view of Furusawa et al., (U.S. Patent No. 6,934,738) and further in view of Dickinson et al., (U.S. Patent No. 7,260,724).

As per claim 4, DiMattina teaches an insurance task processing method comprising: checking, by a third party, electronic information distributed within a computer network between a buyer and a seller to judge whether a solicitation-related keyword is included in the electronic information (see column 3, lines 56-62 and column 4, lines 12-14, the Examiner interprets data regarding items the purchaser wishes to buy to be a form of solicitation-related keyword; it is also noted that the entire transaction may be carried out by the retailer's server, the insurance server (i.e. third party), or both); and distributing solicitation-to-insurance information to at least one of the buyer and the seller having exchanged the electronic information with each other, when judged by the third party that the solicitation-related keyword is included in the electronic information (see column 3, line 63 - column 4, line 21), wherein said distributing distributes the solicitation-to-insurance information from an insurer selected

Art Unit: 3626

corresponding to contents of the electronic information (see column 3, lines 47-55) and said solicitation-to-insurance information is selected according to a trading price and a transaction type included in the electronic information (column 4, lines 22 – 64) where the trading price is interpreted as a security (or certificate) which is guaranteed at the time of transaction.

DiMattina does not explicitly teach the checking is performed by a server operated by a service dealer other than a buyer, a seller and an insurance company. Dickinson teaches a method that includes checking electronic information transmitted between a buyer and a seller by a third party trust engine (see column 45, lines 20-30). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate such a feature into the system of DiMattina. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate such a feature for the purpose of providing enhanced security to the seller in the system of DiMattina (see column 2, lines 6-9 of Dickinson).

DiMattina does not explicitly teach that the electronic information is cross-checked with a word table in which a solicitation-related keyword as a clue of solicitation-to-insurance is registered. Furusawa teaches a method of processing messages in an electronic network in which messages are cross-checked with a word table where keywords are registered and performing associated programs based on identified keywords contained in the messages (see column 5, lines 21-34). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate such keyword lookup table functionality into the system of DiMattina. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate such a feature for the purpose of providing uniformity in the message processing of DiMattina (see column 1, lines 37-42 of Furusawa).

As per claim 2, DiMattina in view of Furusawa teaches the method of claim 4 as described above. DiMattina further teaches said distributing distributes the solicitation-to- insurance information to the buyer when at least one of the buyer and the seller has not yet subscribed to insurance (see column 3, line 58 - column 4, line 31 since the insurance is offered for the particular transaction, the buyer has not yet subscribed to insurance). DiMattina does not explicitly teach distributing solicitation-to-insurance information to the seller. Dickinson teaches a method that distributes solicitation-to-insurance

Art Unit: 3626

information to a seller when the seller has not yet subscribed to insurance (see column 45, lines 20-30). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate such a feature into the system of DiMattina. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate such a feature for the purpose of providing enhanced security to the seller in the system of DiMattina (see column 2, lines 6-9 of Dickinson).

As per claim 3, as per claim 3, DiMattina in view of Furusawa teaches the method of claim 2 as described above. DiMattina further teaches said distributing distributes the solicitation-to-insurance information to the buyer even when the buyer has previously subscribed to insurance, if the insurance is invalid, or if the buyer has experienced an encounter or with an accident related to electronic commerce in the past (see column 3, line 58 - column 4, line 3, since DiMattina does not give any restrictions on when the insurance information is distributed it would still be distributed under these conditions). DiMattina does not explicitly teach distributing solicitation-to-insurance information to the seller. Dickinson teaches a method that distributes solicitation-to-insurance information to a seller even when the seller has previously subscribed to insurance, if the insurance is invalid, or if the seller has experienced an encounter with an accident related to electronic commerce in the past (see column 45, lines 20- 30). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate such a feature into the system of DiMattina. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate such a feature for the purpose of providing enhanced security to the seller in the system of DiMattina (see column 2, lines 6-9 of Dickinson).

As per claim 6, DiMattina teaches an insurance task processing method comprising: an inputting transactional information in a transaction related to electronic commerce between a buyer and a seller (see column 3, lines 56-58); checking the transmitted transactional information between the buyer and "the seller to judge whether a solicitation-related keyword is included in the transmitted transactional information (see column 3, lines 56-62 and column 4, lines 12-14); and transmitting solicitation-to-insurance information to the at least one of the buyer and the seller when judged that the solicitation-

Art Unit: 3626

related keyword is included in said transmitted transactional information (see column 3, line 58 - column 4, line 3), wherein said transmitting transmits the solicitation-to-insurance information from an insurer selected corresponding to contents of the electronic information (see column 3, lines 47-55) and said solicitation-to-insurance information is selected according to a trading price and a transaction type included in the electronic information (column 4, lines 22 – 64) where the trading price is interpreted as a security (or certificate) which is guaranteed at the time of transaction.

DiMattina does not explicitly teach the checking is performed by a server operated by a service dealer other than a buyer, a seller and an insurance company. Dickinson teaches a method that includes checking electronic information transmitted between a buyer and a seller by a third party trust engine (see column 45, lines 20-30). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate such a feature into the system of DiMattina. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate such a feature for the purpose of providing enhanced security to the seller in the system of DiMattina (see column 2, lines 6-9 of Dickinson).

DiMattina does not explicitly teach that the electronic information is cross-checked with a word table in which a solicitation-related keyword as a clue of solicitation-to-insurance is registered. Furusawa teaches a method of processing messages in an electronic network in

- which messages are cross-checked with a word table where keywords are registered and performing associated programs based on identified keywords contained in the messages (see column 5, lines 21-34).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate such keyword lookup table functionality into the system of DiMattina. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate such a feature for the purpose of providing uniformity in the message processing of DiMattina (see column 1, lines 37-42 of Furusawa).

As per claim 7, DiMattina in view of Furusawa teaches the method of claim 6 as described above. DiMattina further teaches judging whether a transactional keyword has been included in said input transactional information (see column 3, line 56-58, the Examiner

Art Unit: 3626

interprets the data regarding items a purchaser wishes to buy to be a form of "keyword" as recited in the claim); and notifying a risk related to the electronic commerce, when said transactional keyword is judged to be included in the transactional information (see column 3, line 58 - column 4, line 3, the Examiner interprets the "guarantees" to be a form of notification of risk related to the electronic commerce).

Claims 10, and 11 recite substantially similar computer medium and system limitations to method claim 1 and, as such, are rejected for similar reasons as given above.

Claims 9 and 12 recite substantially similar computer medium and system limitations to method claim 6 and, as such, are rejected for similar reasons as given above.

As per claim 20, DiMattina teaches an insurance task processing method comprising: judging whether a solicitation-related keyword is included in electronic commerce information exchanged between a buyer and a seller (see column 3, lines 56-62); and transmitting solicitation-to-insurance information to at least one of the buyer and the seller, when said judging determines that the solicitation-related keyword is included in said electronic commerce information (see column 3, line 63 - column 4, line 21), wherein said transmitting transmits the solicitation-to-insurance information from an insurer selected corresponding to contents of the electronic information (see column 3, lines 47-55) and said solicitation-to-insurance information is selected according to a trading price and a transaction type included in the electronic information (column 4, lines 22 – 64) where the trading price is interpreted as a security (or certificate) which is guaranteed at the time of transaction.

DiMattina does not explicitly teach the checking is performed by a server operated by a service dealer other than a buyer, a seller and an insurance company. Dickinson teaches a method that includes checking electronic information transmitted between a buyer and a seller by a third party trust engine (see column 45, lines 20-30). It would have been obvious to one of

Art Unit: 3626

ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate such a feature into the system of DiMattina. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate such a feature for the purpose of providing enhanced security to the seller in the system of DiMattina (see column 2, lines 6-9 of Dickinson).

DiMattina does not explicitly teach that the electronic information is cross-checked with a word table in which a solicitation-related keyword as a clue of solicitation-to-insurance is registered. Furusawa teaches a method of processing messages in an electronic network in which messages are cross-checked with a word table where keywords are registered and performing associated programs based on identified keywords contained in the messages (see column 5, lines 21-34). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate such keyword lookup table functionality into the system of DiMattina. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate such a feature for the purpose of providing uniformity in the message processing of DiMattina (see column 1, lines 37-42 of Furusawa).

4. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DiMattina, (U.S. Patent No. 6,405,177) in view of Furusawa et al., (U.S. Patent No. 6,934,738) and Dickinson et al., (U.S. Patent No. 7,260,724) and further in view of Margoscin et al., (U.S. Patent no. 7,003,482).

As per claim 5, DiMattina in view of Furusawa and Dickinson teaches the method of claim 1 as described above. DiMattina further teaches receiving insurance premium information which has been calculated corresponding to a price included in the electronic information (see column 5, lines 23-26); calculating the sum of the insurance premium indicated by the received insurance premium information and the price (see column 5, lines 26-29); and presenting the calculated insurance premium and the calculated sum to both of the buyer and seller (see column 4, lines 14-17 and column 5, lines 44-50).

Art Unit: 3626

DiMattina does not explicitly teach the insurance premium information is calculated based on a discount insurance premium rate. However, Margoscin teaches a business middleware system for implementing business policy changes including implementing insurance premium discounts (see column 11, lines 44-53). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate such a feature into the system of DiMattina. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate such a feature for the purpose of easily implementing business policy changes, such as implanting insurance premium discounts (see column 2, lines 34-41).

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed May 22, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant's arguments will be addressed herein below in the order in which they appear in the response filed May 22, 2008.

In response to Applicant argument, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has applied new passages and new citations to the amended claims. The Examiner notes that the amended limitations were not in the previously pending claims as such: Applicant's remarks with regard to the application of DiMattina, Furusawa, Dickinson, and Margoscin references to the amended limitations are addressed in the above Office Action.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KRISTINE K. RAPILLO whose telephone number is (571)270-3325. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday 6:30 am to 4 pm Eastern Time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Luke Gilligan can be reached on 571-272-6770. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3626

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

KKR

/C Luke Gilligan/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3626